

R E M A R K SAMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The claims have been amended by cancelling claims 10, 12, 19, 21 and 23-26; amending claims 1-9, 11, 13-18, 20, 22, 27 and 29; claims 28 and 30 are unchanged. Claims 1-9, 11, 13-18, 20, 22 and 27-30 remain in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 101:

Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

The examiner is of the opinion that "input vectors" are abstractions that could be interpreted to include Sonic returns, Radar returns, Voice data, Engine sounds etc. The examiner has therefore concluded (based on re Walderman and the later decision of AT&T Corp. v. Excel Communications, Inc.) that the invention as claimed in claims 1-22 is not limited to the transformation of real world data and are therefore these claims are non-statutory.

We wish to draw the examiner to amended claim 1 that now includes the limitation: "a digital filter with a filter vector input for receiving said sequence of input vectors obtained from a digitized speech signal". Claim 1 also includes the limitation "and wherein the slowly evolving component encoder processes said smoothed estimate value to provide a digitized encoded slowly evolving component of the speech signal". Clearly, the input vectors as recited in amended claim 1 are input vectors obtained from a digitized speech signal and therefore these input vectors cannot be considered as abstractions. Furthermore, the output from the system of as recited in claim 1 is a digitized encoded slowly evolving component of the speech signal. Hence, amended claim 1 has a "useful, concrete and tangible result", this result being the digitized encoded slowly evolving component of the speech signal. The limitations of "a digital filter with a filter vector input for receiving said sequence of input vectors obtained from a digitized speech signal" and "wherein the slowly evolving component encoder processes said smoothed estimate value to

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provide a digitized encoded slowly evolving component of the speech signal" are also recited in base claim 13. Furthermore, similar limitations are recited in base claim 27.

In view of the above, it is submitted that all base claims and their independent claims now on file are "useful", "concrete" and provide a "tangible result". Accordingly, applicant request the examiner's to withdraw the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112:

Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112.

Applicants believe that Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. section 112 is overcome by the amended claims, which are directed to statutory subject matter having a practical application, and the fact that the detailed description clearly supports the claim amendments at page 25, line 5 to page 27, line 17 that describe the practical application. In other words, because the amended claims of the application are directed to statutory subject matter by describing a practical application, and because the detailed description describes the claimed invention, the application does not "fail under the law to enable one of ordinary skill in the art to use the invention under 35 U.S.C. section 112."

In view of the above, this application is believed to be in proper form for allowance and an early notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicant notes that any amendments or claim cancellations made herein and not substantively discussed above are made solely for the purposes of more clearly and particularly describing and claiming the invention, and not for purposes of overcoming art. The Examiner should infer no (i) adoption of a

position with respect to patentability, (ii) change in the Applicant's position with respect to any claim or subject matter of the invention, or (iii) acquiescence in any way to any position taken by the Examiner, based on such amendments or cancellations not substantively discussed. Furthermore, any remarks made herein with respect to a given claim or amendment are intended only in the context of that specific claim or amendment, and should not be applied to other claims, amendments, or aspects of Applicant's invention.

Applicant specifically reserves the right to prosecute claims of differing and broader scope than those presented herein, in a continuation application.

Accordingly, this application is believed to be in proper form for allowance and an early notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

Please charge any fees associated herewith, including extension of time fees, to 502117.

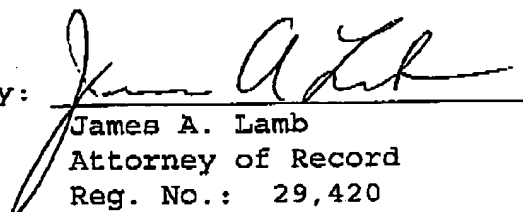
Respectfully submitted,

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